



TROUT WATERS

Dave Baker photo

TROUT REGULATIONS

SPORT FISH SPECIES	Daily Limit	Possession Limit	Minimum Size Limit
Rainbow trout	Daily limit 8, only 3 may be brown trout*		none
Brown trout			12"
Brook trout**	Catch and release only		

* Possession limit is double the daily creel limit on these species

**See "Catch and Release Brook Trout Streams" on page 29.

EXCEPTIONS

On the Dix River (Herrington Lake tailwaters), fishing is permitted with artificial baits only. Live or organic bait may not be possessed while fishing this two-mile section of Dix River. The only public access to Dix River below Herrington Dam is via the Kentucky River.

The Cumberland River below Lake Cumberland from the Wolf Creek Dam downstream to the Tennessee state line is a trophy brown trout area. A 20-inch minimum size limit and a one fish daily creel limit applies to brown trout. A 15 to 20-inch protective

slot limit on rainbow trout is in effect for the same section of the Cumberland River. All rainbow trout caught between 15 and 20 inches must be immediately released. There is a five fish daily creel limit on rainbow trout and only one rainbow trout may be longer than 20 inches. All anglers on this section of the Cumberland River, including all tributary streams up to the first riffle and all of Hatchery Creek, must now possess a valid Kentucky trout permit (regardless of species sought). **Due to variable water quality related to maintenance of Wolf Creek Dam, the rainbow trout creel limit has temporarily been raised to 10**

fish. All other trout regulations remain the same. Anglers should monitor our webpage (fw.ky.gov) and signs posted at access sites for changes.

On Paint Creek in Johnson County (Paintsville Lake tailwater), there is a 16-inch minimum size limit and 1 fish daily creel limit on trout from the KY 40 bridge downstream to the first U.S. 460 bridge crossing. Only artificial baits may be used.

On Chimney Top Creek, including Right Fork Chimney Top Creek (Wolfe County), there is a 16-inch minimum size limit and one fish daily creel limit for brown trout and only artificial baits may be used.

TROUT STOCKING

STREAMS

The streams listed on the next page are stocked with rainbow trout by

the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the months indicated. Brown trout are stocked once each year for a put-grow-

Q: Where can you find out about upcoming trout stockings?

A: Visit fw.ky.gov and click on the "fishing" tab. From there, click on the "stocking" tab and then on "trout stocking schedule."

take fishery. All trout are produced at Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery.

CATCH AND RELEASE STREAMS

Some streams indicated in the table

have a catch and release season (no harvest) from October 1 through March 31, except in Swift Camp Creek where the catch and release season is October 1 through May 31. Only artificial baits

may be used during the catch and release season. Statewide regulations apply April through September.

STATEWIDE STREAMS	County	Total Rainbows	Months	Total Browns	Catch and Release (No Harvest) Season
Bark Camp Creek*	Whitley	3,750	3,4,5,6,10	500	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 3.9 miles
Beaver Creek	Wayne	2,000	4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 90 bridge upstream to Hwy 200 bridge – 2.8 miles
Big Bone Creek	Boone	1,500	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; inside the Big Bone Lick State Park – 2.1 miles
Big Double Creek*	Clay	1,000	3,4,5,10		
Big Caney Creek	Elliott	6,250	4,5,6,7,10	250	
Cane Creek*	Laurel	3,750	3,4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 6.6 miles
Casey Creek	Trigg	8,000	4,5,6,7,8,9,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 3.6 miles
Chimney Top Creek*	Wolfe		6	450	
Clear Creek	Bell	1,500	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 190 bridge down stream to mouth – 4.5 miles
Craney Creek*	Rowan	1,000	10,11		
East Fork Indian Creek*	Menifee	4,500	3,4,5,10	400	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 5.3 miles
East Fork Little Sandy River	Boyd	1,500	4,5,10		
Elk Spring Creek	Wayne	2,000	4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; 2.8 miles
Goose Creek	Casey	3,000	4,5,6,10		
Greasy Creek	Leslie	2,000	4,5,6,10		
Hatchery Creek	Russell	27,000	monthly		
Hood Creek	Johnson	750	4,5,10		
Jennings Creek	Warren	7,000	4,5,6,7,8,9,10		
Laurel Creek	Elliott	4,000	4,5,6,10	250	
Left Fork Beaver Creek	Floyd	1,500	4,5,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Hwy 122 bridge upstream – 3.6 miles
Lick Creek	Simpson	1,250	4,5,6,7,10		
Line Fork	Letcher	4,000	4,5,6,10		
Lynn Camp Creek	Hart	3,750	4,5,6,7,10		
Middle Fork Red River*	Powell/Wolfe	3,000	4,5,6,10		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; inside of Natural Bridge State Park – 2.2 miles
Middle Fork, Rockcastle Creek	Martin	1,500	4,5,10		
North Fork Triplett Creek*	Rowan	3,750	3,4,5,6,10		
Otter Creek, Fort Knox Otter Creek Park	Meade	4,000 5,000	3,4,5,6,7,8,10 4,5,6,10	500 (fort only)	Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Ft. Knox Military Reservation and Otter Creek Park – 9.7 miles
Peter Creek	Barren	1,000	4,5,6,10		
Raven Creek	Harrison	1,500	4,5,10		
Right Fork Buffalo Creek	Owsley	1,000	4,5,6,10		
Rock Creek*	McCreary	15,600	3,4,5,6,9,10, 11,12		Oct. 1 - Mar. 31; Bell Farm bridge upstream to Tennessee border – 9.8 miles

*Daniel Boone National Forest stream; stockings are not announced.

STATEWIDE STREAMS (continued)	County	Total Rainbows	Months	Total Browns	Catch and Release (No Harvest) Season
Rough Creek	Hardin	2,500	4,5,6,7,10		
Rough River (Hwy 54 bridge)	Grayson/Ohio	2,500	4,5,6,7,10		
Round Stone Creek	Hart	2,500	4,5,6,7,10		
Royal Springs	Scott	1,500	6,7,8		
Russell Fork	Pike	3,000	4,5,10		
Sinking Creek	Breckinridge	5,250	4,5,6,7,8,9,10		
Station Camp Creek	Estill	2,250	4,5,10		
Sturgeon Creek	Lee	1,500	4,5,10		
Sulphur Spring Creek	Simpson	3,750	4,5,6,7,10		
Swift Camp Creek*	Wolfe	1,000	4,10		Oct. 1 - May 31; within Clifty Wilderness Area – 8.0 miles
Trammel Fork	Allen	8,750	4,5,6,7,8,9,10	400	
Triplett Creek	Rowan	3,750	3,4,5,6,10		
War Fork*	Jackson	2,500	3,4,5,6,10		

*Daniel Boone National Forest stream; stockings are not announced.

TAILWATERS

The following tailwaters receive rainbow and brown trout. Stocking begins in spring and continues into the late fall; monthly totals will vary. Monthly schedules are available through Kentucky Fish and Wildlife by calling 1-800-858-1549 or logging on to fw.ky.gov.

Get permission

Many of the streams listed in this guide are located on, or adjacent to, privately owned lands. Anyone entering upon or crossing private property must have the permission of the land owner.

TAILWATERS	Total Rainbows	Total Browns	Months
Buckhorn	5,000	0	4,5,6,10,11
Carr Creek	8,000	0	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Cave Run	6,000	0	4,5,6,10,11
Cumberland*	161,000	38,000	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Dewey	4,000	0	4,5,10,11
Fishtrap	10,000	0	4,5,6,10,11
Grayson	5,000	0	4,5,6,10,11
Herrington	4,500	1,000	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Laurel River	250	250	3
Martins Fork	4,500	0	4,5,6,7,10,11
Nolin River	12,250	0	4,5,6,7,8,9,10
Paintsville	16,000	300	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11
Rough River	3,750	0	4,5,6
Yatesville	2,250	0	4,5,11

*Stocking dates for Cumberland River (Lake Cumberland tailwater) will not be announced.

NEW THREAT TO TROUT FISHERIES

The invasive algae known as Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*) recently appeared in the Cumberland River (Lake Cumberland tailwater). This algae is also in Arkansas, Tennessee, West Virginia and several western states. Didymo, native to northern Europe and Canada, is a white, gray, light brown or beige mass on the stream

bottom that resembles shag carpet. Didymo can choke the stream bottom with mats that cover up native plants and crowd out native insects that trout need for food. To prevent the spread of Didymo into other Kentucky tailwaters and streams, anglers who fish the Cumberland River and out-of-state waterways should:

- Inspect all wading gear and boat

hulls, livewells, lower units and trailers for any vegetation after leaving the water and remove.

- If algae or vegetation is discovered later, 1. disinfect with a 2 percent solution of household bleach or, 2. a 5 percent solution of salt or, 3. you may also soak in undiluted vinegar. 4. Allow to air dry for at least 2 days.

LAKES

The lakes below are stocked with rainbow trout in the months indicated. January-March stockings are scheduled based on weather and road conditions.

LAKES	Acreage	Total Rainbows	Months
Anderson Co. Community Park	1	1,500	2,3,11
Bert Combs	36	4,000	1,4,5,10
Beulah	87	4,000	1,4,5,10
Bloomfield Park	2	1,500	2,3,11
Bob Noble Park	6	6,250	2,3,11
Brickyard Pond	10	6,250	2,3,11
Camp Ernst	25	6,250	2,3,11
Cannon Creek	243	6,000	2,10
Cherokee Park	4	3,750	2,3,10
Cranks Creek	219	6,000	1,4,5,10
Dickerson Lake	2	1,500	2,3,11
Easy Walker Park	2	1,500	2,3,11
Fagen Branch	126	5,000	2,11
Fisherman's Park #3 or #4	4 (2 lakes)	3,750	2,3,10
Fish Pond	32	6,000	1,4,5,10
Grant's Branch	40	1,500	3
Greenbo	181	11,000	2,10
Jack C. Fisher Park	2 (2 lakes)	1,500	2,3,10
Kingdom Come State Park	3	3,750	2,3,10
Laurel River	6,060	90,000	1,11
Lower Sportsman's	3	3,750	2,3,10
Lusby	2	1,500	2,3,11
Martin Co.	22	6,250	2,3,11
Metcalfe Co.	22	500	2,3,11
Middleton Mills Park, Long Pond	1	1,500	2,3,10

LAKES (continued)	Acreage	Total Rainbows	Months
Middleton Mills Park, Shelterhouse	1	1,500	2,3,10
Mike Miller Park	4	3,750	2,3,10
Miles Park #4	4	3,750	2,3,10
Mill Creek	41	6,000	1,4,5,10
Millinium Park Lake	2	1,500	2,3,11
Milo (Martin Co. Lake)	5	6,250	2,3,11
Mingo	2	1,500	2,3,10
Paintsville	1,139	17,000	2,10
Panther Creek Park	4	3,750	2,3,10
Peabody WMA, Access Pond	1	500	1
Peabody WMA, Rob's Pond	11	1,500	1
Pollywog	4	3,750	2,3,11
Prisoner's	4	3,750	2,3,10
Scott Co. Park	3	3,750	2,3,11
Southgate	2	1,500	2,3,11
Stanford	43	1,000	4
Stein Community Park	7	6,250	2,3,11
Three Springs	29	6,250	2,3,11
Tom Wallace Park	5	6,250	2,3,10
Upper Sportsman's	7	6,250	2,3,10
Watterson Park	4	3,750	2,3,10
Waverly Park	5	6,250	2,3,10
Whitehall Pond	6	6,250	2,3,10
Woods Creek	672	10,000	2,10
Yellow Creek Park	3	3,750	2,3,10

OTHER AREAS

FORT CAMPBELL AND FORT KNOX

Little West Fork, Fletchers Fork and Kinser Pool on Fort Campbell (Tennessee portion) and Otter Creek on Fort Knox (Bullitt, Meade and Hardin counties) military reservations are stocked with rainbow or brown trout. Special fishing regulations apply and a post fishing permit is required in addition to a valid Kentucky fishing license and trout permit. Contact Community Recreation Division, Hunting and Fishing Unit,

Fort Campbell, KY 42223-5000; phone: (270)798-2175 or Hunt Control Office, Fort Knox, KY; phone: (502) 624-2712.

CATCH AND RELEASE BROOK TROUT STREAMS

Four streams are catch and release only year-round and only artificial flies and lures with a single hook may be used on these streams:

- Dog Fork – Wolfe County
- Parched Corn Creek – Wolfe County
- Poor Fork – Letcher County, from the headwaters to Hwy 932
- Shillalah Creek – Bell County, outside

the Cumberland Gap National Historic Park

Leave a note

When planning a boating trip, leave a note, or float plan, with someone to let them know where you are. Include your departure and expected return times, the waters where you will be boating, a description and/or license number of the vessel and where you can be reached in case of emergency.